

**Annual Reformation Lecture 2009
John Calvin, Preacher of the Word**

Introduction

A Brief Survey of Preaching Prior to the Reformation

A Brief Survey of Preaching in the Reformation

An Introduction to John Calvin

Calvin's View of Preaching

- 1) Scripture is God speaking, thus Scripture speaks with Divine authority.
The divine authority of the Word is above all, subject to none.
- 2) Scripture therefore must be taught, it must be expounded and applied for man's salvation and edification.
- 3) Biblical preaching can be said to be the Word of God.
Second Helvetic Confession, The preaching of the Word of God is the Word of God.

Calvin's images for preaching

1. The school of God
2. The ambassador

The requirements for preachers

1. He must be totally committed to the Bible.
2. He must be a scholar.
3. He must have a humility that bows before the sovereign Word.
4. He needs courage to proclaim the Truth.

The purpose of preaching

1. The glory of God
2. The transformation of our lives (sanctification or reformation according to the Word).
3. To witness to and present salvation

Calvin's Practice of Preaching

Calvin's Legacy and Relevance to the 21st Century